

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7628

FROM RSO TO SY/FO (PAT MORTON)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MATERIAL FOR AMBASSADOR CASTRO

1. PURSUANT TO OUR PHONE CONVERSATION THIS DATE, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR THE BRIEFING OF AMB CASTRO CONCERNING SECURITY SUPPORT IN BUENOS AIRES. THE SY OFFICE STAFF CONSISTS OF AN RSO, A/RSO, AM AMERICAN SECY, A LOCAL INVESTIGATOR AND A MARINE DETACHMENT OF AN NCOIC AND TWELVE WATCHSTANDERS. THE SY OFFICE IS SUPPORTED BY A CONTRACT GUARD SERVICE WHICH EMPLOYS APPROXIMATELY 110 GUARDS WHO MAN FIXED POSTS AT THE CHANCERY, COM AND DCM RESIDENCES AND OTHER SELECTED LOCATIONS, AND A MOTORIZED PATROL OF SIX UNITS COVERING THE FEDERAL CAPITOL AND BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE. THE DAILY SUPERVISION OF THIS GUARD FORCE IS BY THE RSO AND A/RSO AS WELL AS TWO RETIRED COMISARIOS OF THE FEDERAL POLICE. THE ARGENTINE FEDERAL PLICE SUPPORT THE MISSION'S SECURITY PROGRAM BY ASSIGNING PLAINCLOTHES AND UNIFORMED OFFICERS TO SPECIAL ESCORT DETAILS AND FIXED POSTS IN DESIGNATED AREAS.

2. THE COMS TRAVEL IN BUENOS AIRES IS FOR THE MOST PART IN A PARTIALLY ARMORED VEHICLE. THE REAR SEAT, BACK OF THE FRONT SEAT AND ALL THE DOORS FROM THE SILL DOWN ARE BULLET RESISTANT UP TO AND INCLUDING AUTOMATIC 9 MM. FIRE.

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THE CAR ALSO HAS BULLET RESISTANT TIRES. THE VEHICLE IS EQUIPPED WITH RADIO COMMUNICATION TO THE RADIO NET CONTROL ROOM WHICH FUNCTIONS ON A 24-HOUR BASIS. THE LIMOUSINE IS ALSO EQUIPPED WITH A SPECIAL ALARM WHICH, WHEN ACTIVATED, SOUNDS AN ALARM IN THE RADIO NET CONTROL ROOM AND KEYS A HIDDEN MICROPHONE IN THE REAR SEAT, TRANSMITTING ALL CONVERSATION TAKING PLACE DURING THE EMERGENCY.

THIS LIMOUSINE IS ESCORTED BY A FELLOW CAR MANNED BY THREE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE IN PLAINCLOTHES. THESE MEN ARE SPECIALLY SELECTED, TRAINED AND DESIGNATED FOR THIS WORK. IN ADDITION, THE CHIEF OF THE POLICE SECURITY DETAIL RIDES IN THE FRONT RIGHT SEAT OF THE LIMOUSINE AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ORCHESTRATING A RESPONSE TO ANY EMERGENCY SITUATION. AN ADVANCE CAR GENERALLY PRECEDES THE LIMOUSINE BY 10-15 MINUTES TO CHECK THE ROUTE TO BE TRAVELED AND TO ENSURE THAT THE DESTINATION IS SECURE. THIS ADVANCE CAR IS MANNED BY A CONTRACT CHAUFFEUR-BODYGUARD AS WELL AS A MEMBER OF THE ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE. THERE IS AN UNMARKED FORD FALCON AND A TAXICAB WHICH ARE USED TO PROVIDE A DISCREET MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION DURING A HIGH THREAT PERIOD.

3. RESIDENCE - EXTERIOR: ARGENTINE FEDERAL POLICE PROVIDE THREE UNIFORMED POLICEMEN OUTSIDE THE RESIDENCE PROPERTY ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS AND UNMARKED POLICE VEHICLES PATROL THE RESIDENCE AREA FREQUENTLY. THE POLICE ALSO PROVIDE TRAFFIC CONTROL PERSONNEL AND PLAINCLOTHES PERSONNEL FOR LARGE SOCIAL FUNCTIONS, WHEN NECESSARY. THE RESIDENCE IS PROTECTED BY A HIGH STEEL GATE WHICH IS CONTROLLED BY TWO ARMED CONTRACT GUARDS IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. THE REAR AREA OF THE RESIDENCE IS ALSO PATROLLED BY TWO ARMED GUARDS IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES, ONE OF WHOM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE AMBS VEHICLE.
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4. RESIDENCE - INTERIOR: THERE IS A PLAINCLOTHES GUARD SUPERVISOR INSIDE THE RESIDENCE 24-HOURS A DAY. HE SUPERVISES THE GUARDS AND PROVIDES SECURITY FOR THE INTERIOR OF THE RESIDENCE. A RADIO ELECTRIC ALARM SYSTEM, ACTIVATED BY ONE OF 10 STRATEGICALLY PLACED BUTTONS, IS LINKED TO THE POLICE RADIO ELECTRIC COMMUNICATIONS CENTER. WHEN ACTIVATED, THIS ALARM WILL CAUSE POLICE OR FIRE RESPONSE WITHIN 3-4 MINUTES. ALL SECURITY SYSTEMS CAN BE AUGMENTED AS NECESSARY.
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